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Summary record of the 28th meeting
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Chairperson: Ms. Grčić Polić (Vice-Chairperson) ..... (Croatia)

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In the absence of Mr. Semakula Kiwanuka (Uganda), Ms. Grčić Polić (Croatia), Vice-Chairperson, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Agenda item 86: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*) (A/54/670, A/54/839, A/55/138-S/2000/693, A/55/305-S/2000/809, A/55/502, A/55/507 and Add.1, A/C.4/55/6 and A/C.4/55/L.22)

1. **Mr. Zaki** (Egypt), Rapporteur of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, introducing the report of the Special Committee at its extraordinary session (A/C.4/55/6), said that the report set forth the Special Committee's proposals, recommendations and conclusions arising from its consideration of the recommendations in the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/305-S/2000/809) in the light of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of those recommendations, in document A/55/502.

2. In its report, the Special Committee emphasized the need for significantly strengthening and formalizing the consultation process between the Security Council and troop-contributing countries, as well as the need for clear, credible and achievable mandates. It expressed the belief that United Nations peacekeepers must be able to carry out their tasks professionally and successfully and that, once deployed, they must be capable of accomplishing the mission's mandate and of defending themselves and, where mandated, other mission components.

3. The Special Committee welcomed actions taken by the Secretary-General to improve the selection of mission leaders, and stressed the importance of the Secretariat's providing comprehensive and continuous operational and strategic guidance to the mission leadership.

4. The Special Committee recognized the need for Member States and the Secretariat to work together to update and enhance the United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS) in terms of military and civilian police officers. It took note of the Secretary-General's intention to communicate to Member States his requirements for on-call lists of military and civilian police officers by February 2001 after fully consulting all Member States on how best to develop a workable system. In recognition of the demand for highly specialized civilian experts, the Special Committee expressed its support for the establishment by the Secretariat of a roster of pre-selected civilian candidates available for deployment to peacekeeping operations through UNSAS.

5. The Special Committee welcomed the recommendation of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to formulate a comprehensive staffing strategy for peacekeeping operations, and encouraged the reform of the Field Service category of personnel and a review of the working conditions of externally recruited staff.

6. On the issue of structural adjustments in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Special Committee recognized the need to restructure the Military and Civilian Planning Division, and stressed that the Policy Analysis and Lessons Learned Unit should be provided with reliable funding, primarily through assessed contributions under the Support Account. It believed that the Training Unit should continue to focus on assisting the training activities of Member States and, in collaboration with the Policy Analysis and Lessons Learned Unit, should develop guidelines and standard operating procedures. It particularly encouraged the improvement of training programmes for civilian police officers.

7. The Special Committee reiterated its request for an expeditious and comprehensive review of the management, structure, recruitment processes and interrelationships of all relevant elements within the Secretariat that played a role in peacekeeping operations; pending that review, it believed that some additional resources should be made available on an emergency basis for the staffing of the Military and Civilian Planning Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

8. The Special Committee stressed that an enhanced rapidly deployable public information capability must be impartial, accurate and objective and must take into consideration the promotion of local capacity. It recognized that additional resources should be devoted in mission budgets to public information and the associated personnel and information technology that were required. It was of the view that the Committee and other relevant bodies of the General Assembly should continue to consider the informational and

analytical requirements of the United Nations and how best to use existing resources.

9. The Special Committee stressed that all Member States must pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions, and reaffirmed the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly, bearing in mind the special responsibility of permanent members of the Security Council. It remained deeply concerned about the delay in reimbursement of troop contributors, which caused hardship to all troop- and equipment-contributing countries, especially developing countries. It encouraged the Secretariat to continue to expedite the processing of all claims and asked the Secretary-General to present a progress report in that regard by the next session.

10. The Special Committee would resume its consideration of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations and the implementation plan at its regular session to be held after the completion and submission of the comprehensive review. It had also requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the Panel's recommendations at that time.

11. Introducing draft resolution A/C.4/55/L.22, he said that the draft resolution was sponsored by the bureau of the Special Committee. In paragraph 6, the General Assembly would decide to keep open agenda item 86 so as to allow for the adoption of the Special Committee's report after its regular session in the spring of 2001.

12. **Mr. Sattar** (Secretary of the Committee) drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (A/55/507 and Add.1), which was currently being considered by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/C.4/55/6), and an account of the action taken by the Committee, would be made available to the Fifth Committee at the time of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/55/507 and Add.1.

13. *Draft resolution A/C.4/55/L.22 was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.